GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1081
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000
GYAN DARSHAN CHANNEL
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for cable operators to beam Gyan Darshan in the prime band channel so that even homes with black and white channels can access to it;

(b) if so, the time by which an amendment to the Cable Network Regulation Act, 1995 islikely to be brought before the Parliament in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the efforts made by the Doordarshan to generate awareness about the Gyan Darshan Channel?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a), (b) & (c): The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 atpresent mandates the carriage of any two Doordarshan channels of the choice of the cable operator in his network. However, to ensure that the subscriber is not deprived of the major channels of the public service broadcaster, Government propose to introduce an amendment Bill in Parliament during the current session with a view to inter-alia, ensure uniform carriage and proper reception of two terrestrial channels of Doordarshan alongwith one regional language channel through the cable network.

(d): Doordarshan telecasts promotional spots at appropriate places on its channel - I so as to popularise the Gyan Darshan Channel.